

Message

---

**From:** Smith, Emily J. [Smith.Emily@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 1/20/2016 3:56:08 PM  
**To:** Strynar, Mark [Strynar.Mark@epa.gov]; Medina-Vera, Myriam [Medina-Vera.Myriam@epa.gov]; Biales, Adam [Biales.Adam@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Autrey, Brad [Autrey.Brad@epa.gov]; Misenheimer, Carrie [Misenheimer.Carrie@epa.gov]; Lindstrom, Andrew [Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** Re: More questions from reporter Sharon Lerner - Identification of Novel Perfluoroalkyl Ether Carboxylic Acids (PFECAs) interview  
**Attachments:** Additional questions from Sharon Lerner.docx; Wang et al., 2013.pdf  
**Importance:** High

Thanks for drafting these Mark. Given the sensitivity of this topic, the ORD Communications Office is asking to have NERL line management look over our responses to the reporter.

Myriam – can you take a look at these today?

Also – Mark, I notice that you have Adam Biales copied on your response. Is this his area of expertise? If so, it would be great to him review these responses as well.

Thanks!

-Emily

Emily J. Smith  
Communications Director  
EPA National Exposure Research Laboratory  
109 T.W. Alexander Drive  
MD-305-01  
Research Triangle Park, NC, 27711  
Phone: 919-541-5556  
E-mail: smith.emily@epa.gov

---

**From:** Strynar, Mark  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 20, 2016 7:56 AM  
**To:** Smith, Emily J. <Smith.Emily@epa.gov>; Lindstrom, Andrew <Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov>; Autrey, Brad <Autrey.Brad@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Biales, Adam <Biales.Adam@epa.gov>; Medina-Vera, Myriam <Medina-Vera.Myriam@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: More questions from reporter Sharon Lerner - Identification of Novel Perfluoroalkyl Ether Carboxylic Acids (PFECAs) interview

Emily,

**Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)** I answered these questions without Andy having a chance to look at them. I am also attaching the reference I pointed out in the response to one question.

Thanks,

Mark

---

**From:** Smith, Emily J.

**Sent:** Thursday, January 14, 2016 3:32 PM

**To:** Lindstrom, Andrew <[Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov](mailto:Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov)>; Autrey, Brad <[Autrey.Brad@epa.gov](mailto:Autrey.Brad@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Strynar, Mark <[Strynar.Mark@epa.gov](mailto:Strynar.Mark@epa.gov)>; Biales, Adam <[Biales.Adam@epa.gov](mailto:Biales.Adam@epa.gov)>; Medina-Vera, Myriam <[Medina-Vera.Myriam@epa.gov](mailto:Medina-Vera.Myriam@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: More questions from reporter Sharon Lerner - Identification of Novel Perfluoroalkyl Ether Carboxylic Acids (PFECAs) interview

Sounds good. Thanks Andy! Have a good weekend!

-Emily

Emily J. Smith

Communications Director

EPA National Exposure Research Laboratory

109 T.W. Alexander Drive

MD-305-01

Research Triangle Park, NC, 27711

Phone: 919-541-5556

E-mail: [smith.emily@epa.gov](mailto:smith.emily@epa.gov)

---

**From:** Lindstrom, Andrew

**Sent:** Thursday, January 14, 2016 3:16 PM

**To:** Smith, Emily J. <[Smith.Emily@epa.gov](mailto:Smith.Emily@epa.gov)>; Autrey, Brad <[Autrey.Brad@epa.gov](mailto:Autrey.Brad@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Strynar, Mark <[Strynar.Mark@epa.gov](mailto:Strynar.Mark@epa.gov)>; Biales, Adam <[Biales.Adam@epa.gov](mailto:Biales.Adam@epa.gov)>; Medina-Vera, Myriam <[Medina-Vera.Myriam@epa.gov](mailto:Medina-Vera.Myriam@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: More questions from reporter Sharon Lerner - Identification of Novel Perfluoroalkyl Ether Carboxylic Acids (PFECAs) interview

Emily,

We can shoot for noon on Wednesday.

Thank you,

Andy

---

**From:** Smith, Emily J.

**Sent:** Thursday, January 14, 2016 3:15 PM

**To:** Lindstrom, Andrew <[Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov](mailto:Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov)>; Autrey, Brad <[Autrey.Brad@epa.gov](mailto:Autrey.Brad@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Strynar, Mark <[Strynar.Mark@epa.gov](mailto:Strynar.Mark@epa.gov)>; Biales, Adam <[Biales.Adam@epa.gov](mailto:Biales.Adam@epa.gov)>; Medina-Vera, Myriam <[Medina-Vera.Myriam@epa.gov](mailto:Medina-Vera.Myriam@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: More questions from reporter Sharon Lerner - Identification of Novel Perfluoroalkyl Ether Carboxylic Acids (PFECAs) interview

Thanks Andy. I'll let the press office know. Are you saying COB on the 20<sup>th</sup> or do you think you'd be able to get the responses done by noon that day? (No pressure, just asking ☺)

Thank you!!

-Emily

Emily J. Smith  
Communications Director  
EPA National Exposure Research Laboratory  
109 T.W. Alexander Drive  
MD-305-01  
Research Triangle Park, NC, 27711  
Phone: 919-541-5556  
E-mail: [smith.emily@epa.gov](mailto:smith.emily@epa.gov)

---

**From:** Lindstrom, Andrew  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 14, 2016 3:12 PM  
**To:** Smith, Emily J. <[Smith.Emily@epa.gov](mailto:Smith.Emily@epa.gov)>; Autrey, Brad <[Autrey.Brad@epa.gov](mailto:Autrey.Brad@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Strynar, Mark <[Strynar.Mark@epa.gov](mailto:Strynar.Mark@epa.gov)>; Biales, Adam <[Biales.Adam@epa.gov](mailto:Biales.Adam@epa.gov)>; Medina-Vera, Myriam <[Medina-Vera.Myriam@epa.gov](mailto:Medina-Vera.Myriam@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: More questions from reporter Sharon Lerner - Identification of Novel Perfluoroalkyl Ether Carboxylic Acids (PFECAs) interview

Emily,

I think we're going to need a few more days to carefully answer these questions.

Given that we have a holiday on Monday, I'd guess next week Wednesday (the 20<sup>th</sup>) would be reasonable.

I hope this is OK for everyone.

Thank you,

Andy

---

**From:** Smith, Emily J.  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 14, 2016 3:06 PM  
**To:** Lindstrom, Andrew <[Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov](mailto:Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov)>; Autrey, Brad <[Autrey.Brad@epa.gov](mailto:Autrey.Brad@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Strynar, Mark <[Strynar.Mark@epa.gov](mailto:Strynar.Mark@epa.gov)>; Biales, Adam <[Biales.Adam@epa.gov](mailto:Biales.Adam@epa.gov)>; Medina-Vera, Myriam <[Medina-Vera.Myriam@epa.gov](mailto:Medina-Vera.Myriam@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: More questions from reporter Sharon Lerner - Identification of Novel Perfluoroalkyl Ether Carboxylic Acids (PFECAs) interview  
**Importance:** High

Hi Andy,

Sharon Lerner has submitted a few more questions to you via the EPA Press Office. Her questions are below. Will you be able to develop responses to these by tomorrow or should the EPA press office tell the reporter that you'll need a little more time? If you need more time, can you let me and Brad Autrey (copied here) know when you think you'll be able to provide responses?

I am out of the office tomorrow, so if you are providing responses then, you'll need to send them to Brad Autrey and he'll make sure the EPA press office gets them.

Thanks so much! The reporter obviously has a lot of interest in your research ☺

-Emily

Emily J. Smith  
Communications Director  
EPA National Exposure Research Laboratory  
109 T.W. Alexander Drive  
MD-305-01  
Research Triangle Park, NC, 27711  
Phone: 919-541-5556  
E-mail: [smith.emily@epa.gov](mailto:smith.emily@epa.gov)

---

**From:** Maguire, Megan  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 14, 2016 2:41 PM  
**To:** Smith, Emily J. <[Smith.Emily@epa.gov](mailto:Smith.Emily@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Linkins, Samantha <[Linkins.Samantha@epa.gov](mailto:Linkins.Samantha@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Identification of Novel Perfluoroalkyl Ether Carboxylic Acids (PFECAs) interview

Megan, here are additional questions from Sharon. If a response by tomorrow is not feasible (which I understand it may not be, at this stage), let me know and I'll tell the reporter.

Thanks, R.

- > Hi Robert-
- > As promised, here are my additional questions:
- > How many water samples did they take?
- > Over what period of time?
- > From what locations exactly?
- > How exactly did they get them (i.e. -using a boat, walking directly to the shore, etc)
- > If it was a boat, can they please describe it?
- > What sort of equipment did they use to analyze the samples?
- > How many hours would they estimate they spent analyzing the samples and doing other work for the paper?

1) In their paper (page E) they say there were "77 features that were unique to the downstream sample." Does that mean there were 77 chemicals that were not in the upstream sample and were in the downstream sample? If not, can they please clarify.

2) What is known about the relative stability of these PFCs (whose carbon chains are separated by oxygen atoms) to for instance PFOA? What do we know about how much less stable - and thus less persistent - they are?

-Megan

Megan Maguire  
US EPA, Office of Research and Development  
RRB 41261  
O: (202)564-6636  
C: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

---

**From:** Smith, Emily J.  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 14, 2016 12:55 PM

**To:** Maguire, Megan <Maguire.Megan@epa.gov>

**Subject:** FW: Identification of Novel Perfluoroalkyl Ether Carboxylic Acids (PFECAs) interview

**Importance:** High

Megan,

Attached are responses to the reporter's PFOA questions, as well as supporting documentation. Let me know if you have questions. Thanks,

-Emily

Emily J. Smith  
Communications Director  
EPA National Exposure Research Laboratory  
109 T.W. Alexander Drive  
MD-305-01  
Research Triangle Park, NC, 27711  
Phone: 919-541-5556  
E-mail: [smith.emily@epa.gov](mailto:smith.emily@epa.gov)

---

**From:** Lindstrom, Andrew

**Sent:** Thursday, January 14, 2016 10:56 AM

**To:** Smith, Emily J. <[Smith.Emily@epa.gov](mailto:Smith.Emily@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Strynar, Mark <[Strynar.Mark@epa.gov](mailto:Strynar.Mark@epa.gov)>; McMahan, Rebecca <[McMahan.Rebecca@epa.gov](mailto:McMahan.Rebecca@epa.gov)>; McMillan, Larry - RTP <[McMillan.Larry-RTP@epa.gov](mailto:McMillan.Larry-RTP@epa.gov)>; Newton, Seth <[Newton.Seth@epa.gov](mailto:Newton.Seth@epa.gov)>; Biales, Adam <[Biales.Adam@epa.gov](mailto:Biales.Adam@epa.gov)>; Medina-Vera, Myriam <[Medina-Vera.Myriam@epa.gov](mailto:Medina-Vera.Myriam@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Identification of Novel Perfluoroalkyl Ether Carboxylic Acids (PFECAs) interview

Emily,

I've attached our "Answers to questions" and related supporting documentation for this interview.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you very much,

Andy

---

**From:** Smith, Emily J.

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 13, 2016 5:04 PM

**To:** Lindstrom, Andrew <[Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov](mailto:Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Strynar, Mark <[Strynar.Mark@epa.gov](mailto:Strynar.Mark@epa.gov)>; Autrey, Brad <[Autrey.Brad@epa.gov](mailto:Autrey.Brad@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Identification of Novel Perfluoroalkyl Ether Carboxylic Acids (PFECAs) interview

**Importance:** High

Hi Andy,

I'm just checking in to see if you're still on track to be able to provide answers to me for this media inquiry by COB tomorrow? (Thursday, Jan. 14.) The ORD Communications Office just emailed me to check in about it and so I'm following up with you. Thanks for your work on these. Please let me know if there's anything I can do to help!

-Emily

Emily J. Smith  
Communications Director  
EPA National Exposure Research Laboratory  
109 T.W. Alexander Drive  
MD-305-01  
Research Triangle Park, NC, 27711  
Phone: 919-541-5556  
E-mail: [smith.emily@epa.gov](mailto:smith.emily@epa.gov)

---

**From:** Lindstrom, Andrew  
**Sent:** Monday, January 11, 2016 3:01 PM  
**To:** Smith, Emily J. <[Smith.Emily@epa.gov](mailto:Smith.Emily@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Strynar, Mark <[Strynar.Mark@epa.gov](mailto:Strynar.Mark@epa.gov)>; Autrey, Brad <[Autrey.Brad@epa.gov](mailto:Autrey.Brad@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Identification of Novel Perfluoroalkyl Ether Carboxylic Acids (PFECAs) interview

Emily,

Thank you very much.

I'll work with Mark to answer the questions as soon as possible.

Thank you,

Andy

---

**From:** Smith, Emily J.  
**Sent:** Monday, January 11, 2016 2:56 PM  
**To:** Lindstrom, Andrew <[Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov](mailto:Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Strynar, Mark <[Strynar.Mark@epa.gov](mailto:Strynar.Mark@epa.gov)>; Autrey, Brad <[Autrey.Brad@epa.gov](mailto:Autrey.Brad@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Identification of Novel Perfluoroalkyl Ether Carboxylic Acids (PFECAs) interview

Hi Andy,

The reporter's questions are below. The EPA Office of Public Affairs (OPA) has asked that you develop written responses that can be shared with the reporter. The reporter's deadline is this Friday. OPA has also asked that you take a look at [this article in NY Times](#), and note this particular paragraph: "As part of its agreement with the E.P.A., DuPont ceased production and use of PFOA in 2013. The five other companies in the world that produce PFOA are also phasing out production. DuPont, which is currently negotiating a merger with Dow Chemical, last year severed its chemical businesses: They have been spun off into a new corporation called Chemours. The new company has replaced PFOA with similar fluorine-based compounds designed to biodegrade more quickly — the alternative considered and then discarded by DuPont more than 20 years ago. Like PFOA, these new substances have not come under any regulation from the E.P.A. When asked about the safety of the new chemicals, Chemours replied in a statement: "A significant body of data demonstrates that these alternative chemistries can be used safely."

In her questions below, the reporter refers to CBI, which stands for Confidential Business Information. I'm assuming she'd like to know if you and Mark had access to DuPont CBI in conducting this study. Let me know if you have questions. Thanks Andy,

-Emily

Emily J. Smith  
Communications Director  
EPA National Exposure Research Laboratory  
109 T.W. Alexander Drive  
MD-305-01  
Research Triangle Park, NC, 27711  
Phone: 919-541-5556  
E-mail: [smith.emily@epa.gov](mailto:smith.emily@epa.gov)

“Here are some of the questions I hope to ask Mark Strynar and Andrew Lindstrom:

I'm interested in how they did the research for this paper, so I'd like to ask:

- Where did they find these chemicals?
- How they knew to look for the chemicals where they did?
- How exactly did they get the water samples? (i.e. a description of their process)
- Once they got samples, how did they figure out which chemicals were in the water?

Also, I'm interested in what they see as the significance of this paper, so:

- How can this research can be useful (i.e. how can scientists benefit from this information)?
  - What research questions does this paper raise?
  - What is known about the chemicals you found?
  - Do they bear notable similarities to other chemicals?
  - Are there any presentations I might see, powerpoints or something, else that summarize their process or findings?
- Do they have CBI clearance? Why or why not?”